



# State Representative Glenn Anderson

## 2001 Fall Survey

5<sup>th</sup> District

November 2001

(R) 5<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

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Technology, Telecommunications  
and Energy

*Serving the citizens of south  
and east King County,  
including the Sammamish  
Plateau, Snoqualmie Valley,  
Maple Valley, Issaquah, North  
Bend, Black Diamond,  
Enumclaw and eastern Renton.*

Dear Friends,

The collapse of the Democrat-sponsored state operating budget, signed by Governor Locke in June, has left our state in a very precarious financial situation. The shortfall could be \$1+ billion when the Legislature convenes its 2002 session in January, and the level of spending set by the budget could cause that deficit to balloon to \$3 billion between 2003-05. This deficit will mean staggeringly high tax increases or deep cuts in state programs, as our state Constitution requires a balanced budget.

The difficulties of the upcoming budget session present an opportunity to concentrate on the basics: to sort out what state government should and shouldn't be doing, and rebuild a healthy, diversified state economy that produces family-wage jobs and entrepreneurial energy. It will be an opportunity to begin investing in a secure and prosperous future.

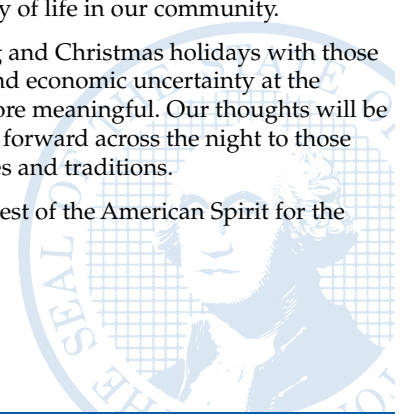
With stark and difficult choices awaiting us in Olympia, I want to be sure I understand your priorities before the 2002 session gets under way. Please take the time to respond to this questionnaire. It's your government, and your voice counts. Your responses will help me be a stronger advocate for the priorities that define the quality of life in our community.

We typically look forward to spending the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays with those we love and cherish. This year, with our nation at war and economic uncertainty at the doorstep of our state, the holiday season will be even more meaningful. Our thoughts will be with loved ones not with us. Our special prayers will go forward across the night to those serving overseas to defend our nation's principles, values and traditions.

Wishing you, your family and those you love, the very best of the American Spirit for the holidays.

Sincerely,

  
Glenn Anderson



Your individual responses will be kept in confidence by my office. After completing the survey, please place it in an envelope, affix the required postage and mail it to me. Thank you!

Please provide your zip code to help me quantify the responses within our district. \_\_\_\_\_

**Rep. Glenn Anderson**

PO Box 40600

Olympia, WA 98504-0600

## General Budget Spending

The state's September revenue forecast indicated the \$22.78 billion operating budget for 2001-03 will spend \$760 million more than the state expects to take in over that two-year period. The November revenue forecast was anticipated to increase that gap by another \$500 million. How should the Legislature deal with this \$1.3 billion deficit?

Exhaust the state's emergency reserve fund (*currently \$390 million*) before cutting services or raising taxes.

\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_ No

\_\_\_\_ Raise taxes, don't cut services  
(*please list from 1 to 3 as most acceptable, with 1 being most acceptable*).

\_\_\_\_ Raise sales taxes (*consumers*)

\_\_\_\_ Raise property taxes (*property owners*)

\_\_\_\_ Raise B&O taxes (*employers*)

\_\_\_\_ Cut services, don't raise taxes  
(*please list from 1 to 7 as most acceptable, with 1 being most acceptable*).

\_\_\_\_ K-12 education

\_\_\_\_ Higher education

\_\_\_\_ Social services

\_\_\_\_ Health care

\_\_\_\_ Environmental regulation

\_\_\_\_ Corrections & prisons

\_\_\_\_ Law enforcement

\_\_\_\_ Other (*please attach details*)

Initiative 728 (*regarding class sizes, passed in 2000*) added \$393 million to K-12 education funding to reduce class size over the 2001-03 biennium. The initiative did not require schools to show how they had used the money for its intended purpose, however. Should such a formal accounting of I-728 dollars be required?

\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_ No

To maintain I-728 funding beyond this biennium (*projected \$635 million in 2003-05*), should the Legislature approve a referendum to the people containing a specific tax increase?

\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_ No

Should the state make new investments to secure and enhance its emergency telecommunications and computer networks to assure that public safety agencies are able to effectively respond to natural and wartime emergencies?

\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_ No

## Economic Development

Do you think that your family income and standard of living is at risk due to the economic downturn in the state?

\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_ No

Should the state encourage the recruitment of high-wage manufacturing employers to locate within the state to diversify our economy and create jobs?

\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_ No

Should the state review its labor and environmental regulatory policies with a focus on making our state more attractive as a business location?

\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_ No

Transportation

**Taxes:** Since 1991, the state gas tax has been 23 cents per gallon. Of that, 12 cents is allocated to state projects and 11 cents is reallocated to local jurisdictions. Over the last 10 years the value of that 23 cents has depreciated almost 40 percent due to inflation and increased labor and environmental regulatory costs.

Should the level of gas tax be tied to Seattle’s CPI (*inflation index*), to maintain adequate funding for currently approved transportation construction projects?

Yes No

Should the governor declare a transportation “emergency” to temporarily suspend labor and environmental regulatory requirements and substantially lower the cost of transportation projects and speed up construction?

Yes No

How much more tax on gas (*per gallon*) would you pay to fund new transportation construction dedicated to specific congestion relief projects, such as I-405/SR167?

0 cents 1-5 cents 6-10 cents 11-15 cents

The state operating budget receives almost \$1 billion in auto-related sales tax. Should these dollars be shifted to the transportation budget, even if that transfer made the anticipated operating budget deficit worse?

Yes No

The state unemployment insurance fund currently has a \$2 billion fund balance. Should a portion of that fund be dedicated to a “jobs-creation stimulus package” dedicated to specific high-priority transportation construction projects in the Puget Sound area?

Yes No

The Puget Sound economy provides approximately 70% of the tax revenues spent in the state operating budget and approximately 55% of the revenues spent in the state transportation budget. Should Puget Sound congestion relief and mobility projects be the state’s first transportation priority?

Yes No

**Transit:** The Puget Sound regional transportation planning organization is biased by representation in favor of urban residents. The 2000 U.S. Census shows that Puget Sound urban and suburban/rural populations are approximately equal. Should such an organization equally represent suburban and rural residents to meet regional transportation needs?

Yes No

Should Sound Transit be placed back on the ballot for a public revote to either revalidate or discontinue Sound Transit operations?

Yes No

Should Sound Transit be governed by people elected independently and specifically to the board, or continue to be appointed by county executives?

Elected Appointed

One of this year’s proposals would have allowed transportation tax dollars generated statewide to subsidize Seattle-King County Metro transit operations. Should non-urban areas in King County and the state be required to support Seattle-Metro transit operations that do not serve them?

Yes No

Education

Teachers across the state are paid according to the same scale. However, the Puget Sound area’s cost-of-living is significantly higher than in other regions. Should state teacher compensation scales be adjusted depending on the regional cost-of-living?

Yes No

Should teachers who have shown exceptional achievement at professional certification receive a cash bonus?

Yes No

The marketplace for entry-level teachers is very competitive and the pool of qualified persons is diminishing. Should the state make money available to school districts to offer competitive one-time signing bonuses to attract the best and brightest?

Yes No

About 8% of the 2,600 public schools in Washington (57,000 children) are identified as “failing.” What should the state do about them (*check one*)?

notify each school identified as failing, work with parents and the school on an improvement plan, and provide resources to support that plan

stay out of the way and let parents and school boards address the situation

Schoolyard violence, bullying and harassment are causes for concern. What should the state do about them?

set statewide standards for “correct” behavior aimed at minimizing youth violence

stay out of the way and let parents and school boards address the situation

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“Government of the people,  
by the people, and for the people...”  
...needs the voice of the people”

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